

FEB 12 2008

P03655US00 (AAF-02)

PATENT APPLICATION
Serial No. 10/541,636**REMARKS**

Claims 2-7, 9-13, 15-18, 20 and 22 are pending in the captioned Application in which claims 1, 8, 14, 19 and 21 are cancelled, and claims 9 and 22 are allowed.

Independent claims 9 and 22 are allowed and newly independent claim 20 is allowable for the same reasons that claims 9 and 22 were allowed. All of remaining claims 2-7, 10-13, and 15-18 depend from one of allowed/allowable claims 9, 20 and 22, and so are allowable.

Thus entry of this Response which places the application in condition for allowance is proper under the Rules, and such action is solicited.

This response does not narrow the scope of any claim element or limitation and so is not limiting of any claim element or limitation, and Applicant reserves the right to the benefit of the doctrine of equivalents with respect thereto.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a):

Claims 1-7, 10-18 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over PCT Publication WO 98/15788 to Tychsen in view of US 3,707,987 to Gordon.

The rejection is overcome by the amendment herein.

Claims 2-7, 10-13 and 15-18 are amended to depend from one of allowed/allowable claims 9, 20 and 22. Re-written claim 20 is allowable for the same reasons as claims 9 and 22. Claims 1 and 14 are cancelled.

Accordingly, the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is overcome and should be withdrawn.

Conclusion:

Applicant respectfully requests that this Response be entered, that the rejection be withdrawn, and that the Application including claims 2-7, 9-13, 15-18, 20 and 22 be allowed and passed to issuance.

Please charge the \$120 fee for filing this Response within the first month time

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extension to Deposit Account 04-1406 of Dann, Dorfman, Herrell & Skillman in accordance with the Fee Transmittal submitted herewith.


The number of claims remaining being less than the number previously paid for, no fee is due therefor in consequence of this response.

However, should the fee calculation be incorrect, or should any other or additional fee be due in consequence of this response, please charge such fee and deposit any refund to Deposit Account 04-1406 of Dann, Dorfman, Herrell & Skillman.

The Examiner is again thanked for granting a Telephone Interview, and is requested to telephone the undersigned attorney if there is any question or if prosecution of this Application could be furthered by telephone.

Respectfully submitted,
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Attorneys for Applicant(s)

By:



Clement A. Berard

U.S.P.T.O. Registration No. 29,613

February 12, 2008

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Enc.: Fee Transmittal

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